Decontrolling the prices of Category drugs

3005. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 77 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th February, 1989 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that neither the Cabinet nor the Drug Policy 1986 authorised Kelkar Committee to make recommendations on drugs needed for National Health Programmes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Kelkar Committee made recommendations for price decontrol of Category-I drugs which were identified by Ministry of Health;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to this the prices of medicines have gone up from 100 per cent to 800 per cent;

(d) whether his Ministry is aware of such steep increases; and

(e) if so, what are the names of medicines where prices have gone up after DPCO, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) As already stated in reply to Starred Question 77 referred to in the question, as per the report of the Committee, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare desired the Kelkar Committee to hear the representations regarding some Category I drugs also. The said Committee therefore reviewed the representations for the drugs in both the Schedules under DPCO, 1987.

(c) to (e) Only one drug namely Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS) which was previously in Category I has been exempted from price control under DPCO, 1987. To the extent information is available prices of this drug, have not gone up to that extent consequent to exemption from price control.

Price Control/Deletion of Drugs recommended by Kelkar Committee

3006. SHRI CHITA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 607 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th February, 1989 and state:

(a) what are the names of drugs recommended for deletion by Kelkar Committee in the supplementary report;

(b) whether Kelkar Committee recommended price control of any drug in its supplementary report; and

(c) if so, the names of those drugs?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (c) Some of the recommendations contained in the Supplementary report of Kelkar Committe are yet to be considered.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Prices of Betamethasone Formulations

3007. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2068 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) what is the price of Betamethasone and its formulations sold under the brand name of Betnovate as now fixed by the Government;

(b) what was the price fixed under DPCO, 1979, in 1981 and what is the price at which the company is presently selling the formulations based on Betamethasone;

(c) whether his Ministry has worked out the amount over-charged; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The required details to the extent available are given in the attached statement. (*See* below) The price of formulations concerned was not fixed under DPCO, 1979, due to stay granted by the Delhi High Court. M/s. Glindia Limited had therefore been charging their own price.

(c) and (d) Action is already on to work out the amount overcharged by the Company.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of Product	Pack size	Price fixed under DPCO, 1979 in 1981 (Rs.)	Price fixed under DPCO, 1987 (Rs.)
	Bulk Drugs			
1.	Betamethasone Alcohol		113.34 per gm.	144.19 per gm.
2.	Betamethasone Valerate		105.85 per gm.	136.58 per gm.
3.	Betamethasone Di-sodium Phosphate		126.23 per gm.	144.58 per gm.
	Formulations			
1.	Otina Drops	3 ml vial		4.29
2.	Betnesol Eye/Ear Drops	3ml vial		4.14
3.	Betnesol-N Eye/Ear Drops	3 ml vial		4.35
4.	Betnesol-N Nasal Drops	10 ml vial		5.10
5.	Betnesol Eye Ointment	3g. Tube		2.79
6.	Betnesol-N Ointment	3g. Tube		3.02
7.	Betnovate Ointment	15g. Tube		9.22
8.	Betnovate-N Ointment	15g. Tube		9.75
9.	Betnovate-C Ointment	15g. Tube		9.80
10.	Annovate Ointment	15g. Tube		6.40
11.	Beta Derobin Ointment	15g. Tube		9.93
12.	Betnovate Scalp Appln.	20ml Bottle		11.55
13.	Betnesol Oral Drops	10ml Bottle		4.99
14.	Betnesol Injection	3×1ml amp.		9.85
15	Betnelan Tablets	Strip of 10 Tabs.		2.16
16.	Betnesol Tablets	Strip of 10 Tabs.		2.72

Delay in recovery from Drug Companies

3008. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2844 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) what are the reasons, that his Ministry has taken about two years even after the Supreme Court judgement to arrive at some decisions in the case of recovery from drug companies;

(b) what decisions have been arrived at now and when they were communicated to the companies;

(c) whether the companies would pay interest on the amount due after 9th June, 1988;

(d) if so, on what rate and if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is a fact that delay means loss to exchequer, if so, what action has been taken to fix responsibility in this regard;

(f) whether his Ministry has estimated the loss; and